

## **DR. SOUTHARD HONORED FOR HIS CAREER AND DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY**

With Friday, November 6, 2015 as his last official day as the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), Marvin Southard, DSW, has received many special awards and plaques of appreciation for his commitment and dedication to public service. In the days leading to his retirement, clients, staff and the community have thanked him and planned farewell celebrations in his own honor.

Here are some events:



### **BOARD RECOGNITION**

On Tuesday, November 3, 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognized Marvin J. Southard, DSW, for his seventeen-year career as the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH).

Dr. Southard received a scroll, signed by all five Supervisors, and listened to the Supervisors share words of thanks and congratulations.

With him on stage were his wife Carolyn, sons Patrick and Adam, and grandson Curran. Dr. Southard also invited former LACDMH Director Areta Crowell. During the presentation of the scroll, Dr. Southard thanked his family for their support as well as commended his colleagues and staff for a job well done over the years. He also thanked Crowell for paving the way for his successful career at LACDMH.

## LATINO COMMUNITY OUTREACH HONORS DR. SOUTHARD



On Monday, November 2, 2015, members of the Support Groups in Spanish Project/Latino Community Outreach celebrated Dr. Southard's retirement at LACDMH headquarters.

Over 70 staff and volunteers came together at the farewell party for Dr. Southard. They sang songs, recited poetry and shared memories of working with him throughout his 17-year career at LACDMH. Many also wished him well and spoke of his generosity and commitment to the community.

Dr. Southard was presented with gifts and special plaques of appreciation, honoring him for his years of public service, dedication and hard work as well as his support to the Latino community.



## CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AWARD



On Thursday, October 29, 2015, The Help Group presented the Champion for Children Award to the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), Marvin J. Southard, DSW. Dr. Southard was given the award during The Help Group's Summit 2015 proceedings.

"It is truly a blessing to have a leader like you who recognizes the beauty and potential that each and every child possesses, and who has forged countless pathways so that they may look forward to bright futures," said Barbara Firestone from The Help Group. "We are most grateful for your abiding support and commitment to the kids, and we wish you all the very best in your next chapter!"